

July 1, 2005

MICHAEL D. WILLIAMS
PO BOX 582
PROSSER WA 99350

Subject: Complaint filed against Perfect Printing and Signs – PDC Case No. 05-124

Dear Mr. Williams:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) staff has completed its investigation of your complaint received November 19, 2004, alleging that Perfect Printing and Signs, a commercial advertiser, failed to provide the information required by RCW 42.17.110 concerning advertising it accepted with regard to a November 2, 2004 ballot proposition.

Your complaint was reviewed in light of the following statute:

RCW 42.17.110 states in part: (1) Each commercial advertiser who has accepted or provided political advertising during the election campaign shall maintain open for public inspection during the campaign and for a period of no less than three years after the date of the applicable election, during normal business hours, documents and books of account which shall specify:

- (a) The names and addresses of persons from whom it accepted political advertising;
- (b) The exact nature and extent of the advertising services rendered; and
- (c) The consideration and the manner of paying that consideration for such services.

You alleged that Perfect Printing and Signs failed to provide you with all the documents you requested, as required by RCW 42.17.110, concerning yard signs and flyers produced for the “Vote No on Council-Manager Form of Government” campaign.

We found that:

- Prior to the 2004 general election, Perfect Printing and Signs printed a political flyer that asked residents of the City of Prosser to vote “No” on a November 2, 2004 ballot proposition. The measure proposed adopting a council-manager form of city government. The advertising printed by Perfect Printing and Signs included yard signs and flyers.

- On October 29, 2004, prior to the election, PDC staff informed you of the individuals who placed and paid for the advertising printed by Perfect Printing and Signs.
- On November 1, 2004, you sent a letter to Donna Barnard, owner of Perfect Printing and Signs, requesting information about political advertising it had accepted. In addition to asking for the information specified in RCW 42.17.110, you asked for “*copies of any and all documents, notes, letters, emails, other correspondence, or other public records ... relating to the Vote No on Council-Manager Form of Government.*” These additional items are not required to be disclosed by a commercial advertiser under RCW 42.17.110.
- On November 11, 2004, when you went to Perfect Printing and Signs to view its advertising records, Eric Barnard provided copies of the invoices and receipts relating to the services rendered for the “Vote No on Council-Manager Form of Government” advertising.

Perfect Printing and Signs, a commercial advertiser, provided you with the records it was required to provide in accordance with the provisions of RCW 42.17.110.

After a careful review of the alleged violations and relevant facts, we have concluded our investigation and, with the concurrence of the Chair of the Public Disclosure Commission, I am dismissing your complaint against Perfect Printing and Signs.

If you have questions, please contact Phil Stutzman, Director of Compliance, at (360) 664-8853 or toll free at 1-877-601-2828.

Sincerely,

Vicki Rippie
Executive Director

c: Donna Barnard, Perfect Printing and Signs